THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Between May, 2001 and December, 2001, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reported 35,426 cases to the Enforcement Directorate where remittances in foreign exchange had been effected but proof of import of related goods had not been furnished by the importers. These cases pertained to import transactions carried out between 1985 and March 2000. While reporting these cases, the RBI, however, did not furnish detailed comments on the findings of its own inquiries into each such case.

(b) Investigations were intiated by the Enforcement Directorate against all importers reported by the RBI. As a result, Show Cause Notices were issued to 5390 importers. The remaining cases were closed because, on investigation, the importers submitted proof of import of the goods. Out of 5390 Show Cause Notices, there were 682 Notices in respect of cases of imports in which the amount involved exceeded Rs. 1 crore. However, the effort involved in the compilation of company-wise information in such a large number of cases as referred to in the question is not commensurate with the result intended.

(c) Notices have been issued to the importers to show cause as to why adjudication proceedings should not be held in terms of the Adjudication Proceedings and Appeal Rules under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA). Further action will depend on production of evidence by the notices in the course of adjudication proceedings and examination of such evidence by the Adjudicating Authorities concerned.

Circulation of fake currency

†692. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact circulation of fake currency has been increasing in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have the information that it is being printed in Bangladesh;

(c) if so, whether Government are contemplating to take any concrete steps to check the same; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) Data on detection of fake currency in the recent past does not show any definite trend.

(b) There are indications of possibility of Bangladesh being used as one of the transit routes for infiltrating counterfeit currency into India.

(c) and (d) To curb circulation of fake currency notes in the country, the Government has taken a number of steps which *inter-alia* include setting up a special unit in the Central Bureau of Investigation for exclusive investigation of counterfeit currency notes, scaling up of vigilance by the Border Security Force/Custom Authorities, to prevent smuggling of fake currency notes into the country, incorporation of special security features in high denomination notes and dissemination of information on security features through print media and Doordarshan for the benefit of public. A High Level Committee of experts, with representatives from Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Home Affairs, National Security Council Sectt., Reserve Bank of India and the Printing Presses, constituted to examine the whole gamut of problems caused by circulation of fake currency has recently submitted its report wherein it has made several recommendations to tackle the problem.

Accidents on LPG/CNG run vehicles

693. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to minimize fire accidents in motor vehicles run on LPG/CNG;

(b) whether Government are aware of bursting of LPG/CNG Gas cylinders used in buses and cars; and

(c) if so, whether Government are planning to stop the usage of LPG/CNG Gas cylinders in motor vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The training/